

HOUSE RESOLUTION 212
By Odom

A RESOLUTION to create a special committee to study practice as a psychological examiner.

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-11-202, defines “practice as a psychological examiner” as the rendering to individuals or to the public for remuneration any service involving the application of recognized principles, methods and procedures of the science and profession of psychology, such as interviewing or administering and interpreting tests of mental abilities, aptitudes, interests and personality characteristics, for such purposes as psychological evaluation or for educational or vocational selection, guidance or placement; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-11-202, further prohibits a psychological examiner from practicing in the areas of overall personality appraisal or classification, personality counseling, psychotherapy or personality readjustment techniques, except under the qualified supervision of a licensed psychologist; and

WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced before this General Assembly to delete such supervision requirement, such legislation being predicated on the assertion that psychological examiners are themselves highly trained and qualified mental health professionals, and that the supervision of their respective professional practices by psychologists is therefore unnecessary; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly has yet to reach a consensus on this timely and important mental health issue; and

WHEREAS, the health and safety of all Tennesseans is the primary concern of this General Assembly, and this important issue should be carefully studied and examined to ensure that the public welfare is being properly served; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That there is hereby created a special committee to study practice as a psychological examiner, specifically including the statutory requirement that the practice of psychological examiners in certain areas be supervised by a licensed psychologist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special committee shall be composed of the members of the Allied Health Subcommittee of the House Health and Human Resources Committee; two (2) additional members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; one (1) licensed psychologist, to be appointed by the Tennessee Psychological Association; and one (1) licensed psychological examiner, to be appointed by the Tennessee Association of Psychological Examiners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the special committee upon request by the chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the General Assembly. At its first meeting, the special committee shall elect a chair, vice-chair, and such other officers that the committee deems necessary from among the legislative members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all legislative members of the special committee who are duly elected members of the General Assembly shall remain members of such committee until the committee reports its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the special committee shall timely reports its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation or interim reports, to the One Hundredth General Assembly no later than January 15, 1997, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.